

Working to support our next generation of Illinois leaders, Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) toured the campus of Illinois State University, Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, meeting students and faculty to discuss a variety of issues of importance to ISU.

"Illinois State University is a very important part of our community and my district," said Halvorson. "I'm proud to have several students from ISU interning for me, and members of my staff who are ISU alumni. We have made significant progress over the last year in Congress to fight to make higher education more accessible and more affordable. I look forward to continue working with the faculty and students of ISU so they can lead our community."

Halvorson started her day at ISU's Mennonite College of Nursing, where she met with nursing students and faculty to discuss efforts to support nurses through education assistance and other programs.

"We are thrilled that Congresswoman Halvorson spent so much time on Illinois State's campus and we were proud to show how her efforts are benefitting the University's students, faculty and staff," said President Al Bowman. "We are grateful that our students will be better educated, our faculty better equipped and our campus more sustainable through Congresswoman Halvorson's work."

Later in the day, the Congresswoman met with participants from the ISU School of Business for a roundtable discussion on the future of rural business. Halvorson will also meet with representatives from ISU's sustainable In vessel Food Composting project, before meeting with students from the Student Government Association.

In her first term as a Member of Congress, Halvorson has a strong record of supporting higher education. Fighting for student loan reform, Halvorson supported and voted for the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act, which will save \$87 billion over 10 years, legislation to provide an additional \$15.6 billion for Pell Grants to increase access to higher education for students.